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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/573,140	11/27/2006	Mette Brink	00660.0322-US-WO	3142
22865	7590	01/30/2008	EXAMINER	
Altera Law Group, LLC 220 S 6 St Suite 1700 Minneapolis, MN 55402			HSIEH, PING Y	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2618	
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			01/30/2008	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/573,140

Applicant(s)

BRINK ET AL.

Examiner

Ping Y. Hsieh

Art Unit

2618

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 October 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/22/06</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cannon et al. (U.S. PG-PUB NO. 2002/0090912).

-Regarding claim 1, Cannon et al. disclose a communications unit **(BLUETOOTH device 100, fig. 1)** constructed as a slave station which is adapted to be coupled to a plurality of master stations via a wireless connection **(as disclosed in paragraph 23)**, said communications unit having a memory with a plurality of address fields in which one or more identification keys may be stored **(BD\_ADDR device address 502 as disclosed in fig. 1 and further disclosed in paragraph 36-37))**, wherein a coupling is established between one of the master stations and the communications unit in that an identification key of the master station is stored in one of the address fields of the communications unit **(pairing of BLUETOOTH devices occurs by setting up which BLUETOOTH device addresses can establish a connection with each other as disclosed in paragraph 37)**, wherein at least one of the address fields of the communications unit is configured with a fixed address field and an associated electrical lock **(passcode or pin as disclosed in paragraph 37)**, and that the

address field may be overwritten only if a certain master station of the plurality of master stations has a unique identification key to open the electrical lock **(as disclosed in paragraph 37 and 38).**

-Regarding claim 2, Cannon et al. further disclose the fixed address field is predefined to be coupled only to specific master stations **(as disclosed in paragraph 37-38).**

-Regarding claim 3, Cannon et al. further disclose the coupling is established with a short-ranged communications connection of the Bluetooth type **(as disclosed in paragraph 37-38).**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4, 5, 7, 9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cannon et al. (U.S. PG-PUB NO. 2002/0090912) in view of Liang (U.S. PG-PUB NO. 2002/0071549).

-Regarding claim 4, Cannon et al. disclose all the limitations as claimed in claim 1. However, Cannon et al. fail to specifically disclose the BLUETOOTH device 100 is a headset.

Liang discloses a wireless headset 40 as disclosed in fig. 1 and paragraph

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art at the time of invention to modify the BLUETOOTH device as disclosed by Cannon et al. to be a wireless headset as disclosed by Liang. One is motivated as such in order to provide an easier way to pick up a telephone when the user is using both hands for other operations.

-Regarding claim 5, the combination further discloses the master station is an adapter master station having a unique identification key, and that the adapter master station is coupled, optionally wirelessly, to a public switched telephone **(Liang, as disclosed in paragraph 14).**

-Regarding claim 7, the combination further discloses the master station is a public switched telephone **(Liang, as disclosed in paragraph 14).**

-Regarding claim 9, the combination further discloses the adapter master station has an electrical circuit or a mechanical structure adapted to lift or hang-up the receiver of the public switched telephone **(Liang, handset raising device 30 as disclosed in fig. 1 and paragraph 14).**

-Regarding claim 11, the combination further discloses the adapter master station has a charging unit to charge the headset **(Liang, receiving/charging slot 23 as disclosed in fig. 1 paragraph 18).**

5. Claims 6 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cannon et al. (U.S. PG-PUB NO. 2002/0090912) in view of Liang (U.S. PG-PUB NO. 2002/0071549) and further in view of Mooncy et al. (U.S. PG-PUB NO. 2003/0045235).

-Regarding claims 6 and 10, the combination of Cannon et al. and Liang discloses all the limitations as claimed in claims 1 and 5. However, the combination fails to disclose the adapter master station emits indication signals to the communications unit, allowing it to be verified in the communications unit, e.g. via sound emission, whether it may be coupled to the adapter master station, and if so a prioritized connection to the adapter master station is provided..

Mooney et al. disclose the adapter master station emits indication signals to the communications unit, allowing it to be verified in the communications unit **(wireless BLUETOOTH phone 502 sends an unsolicited result code RING to alert the user of the BLUETOOTH headset 504 as disclosed in fig. 5 and further disclosed in paragraph 17)**, e.g. via sound emission, whether it may be coupled to the adapter master station, and if so a prioritized connection to the adapter master station is provided.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art at the time of invention to modify the adapter master station as disclosed by Cannon et al. and Liang to emit indication signals to the communications unit as disclosed by Mooney et al. One is motivated as such in order to provide the user to notice an incoming call even in the noisy environment.

6. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cannon et al. (U.S. PG-PUB NO. 2002/0090912) in view of Liang (U.S. PG-PUB NO. 2002/0071549) and further in view of Hahn et al. (WO 00/72555).

-Regarding claim 8, the combination of Cannon et al. and Liang discloses all the limitations as claimed in claims 1 and 5. However, the combination fails to disclose the adapter master station has a volume control unit to adjust the strength of a signal between the communications unit and a master station, e.g. a public switched telephone, relative to the strength of the signal between the headset and another master station, e.g. a mobile telephone.

Hahn et al. disclose the adapter master station has a volume control unit to adjust the strength of a signal between the communications unit and a master station, e.g. a public switched telephone, relative to the strength of the signal between the headset and another master station, e.g. a mobile telephone (**page 7 lines 26-28**).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art at the time of invention to modify the adapter master station as disclosed by Cannon et al. and Liang to have a volume control unit as disclosed by Hahn et al. One is motivated as such in order to provide a uniform volume to prevent damage to the ears.

### ***Conclusion***

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Iglehart et al. (U.S. PATENT NO. 6,091,812).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ping Y. Hsieh whose telephone number is 571-270-

3011. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (alternate Fridays)  
8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lana Le can be reached on 571-272-7891. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

PH



1-18-08

LANA LE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER